







## Agricultural.

## Funny.

### Budding.

### Knowing Too Much.

Almost all intelligent farmers know that budding is springtime to get a good head on a wild tree or to change the character of it to something more desirable. But the spring is generally crowded with work. How get done what they desired and intended to do; and among the rest of things, very likely of all others will be the grafting job. Something of this can be made up at this season by budding, or inoculation as it is sometimes called. It does not find the time, says with farmers, nor with nurserymen, because no time seems to be gained over grafting six months, hence; for the buds put in now do not produce growth till the next spring season. If grafts are put in next year they grow immediately and make stronger growths and form a good head much sooner than buds put in at this season will. But then there is the question of time. If one waits for spring it may never be done. This is comparatively a leisure season, and a tree budded now is done with. It will keep on growing and will certainly beat the tree that never is done!

Budding is so simple an operation and has been over and over again described in the papers that most persons who are likely to be benefited by this article know how it is done. A piece of bark containing a pith-stick and the eye at its base is simply put under the bark of the stock to be improved and which has been slit and "lifted" or loosened by the back of a knife for the purpose.

After the insertion the bud is tied firmly in. Any one can understand this, and only a few words will teach most. But there is one thing which all budders do not understand and we will explain why even some great heads fail in their work. The branch on which the bud is to go must be thrifty, vigorous and in every way healthy, or the bud will not take. Failure in most cases comes from this. It does not make much difference whether the branch operated on is more than one year old, so that the bark separates freely from the wood—as the budders say, "runs freely"—but it is essential that it should be in perfect health. The bark generally separates freely at the end of summer, but in spring, we have described. In regard to the bud, it must not be too young. Failure generally comes from this. There is far less chance of failure with very old buds than with young ones, though, of course, the latter must be of this considerable growth.

It is hardly necessary to say that in budding, as in grafting, like must be suited to like, and the nearer the bud is like its stock the better will be its success. It is not often that plants of two dissimilar families will grow together, but the buds will grow on the stock, but this is rather an exception. So closely allied things as the apple and the pear will not do very well, and only at all with difficulty. —*Germania Telegraph.*

**Department of Agriculture.**

The department of agriculture, by collecting information about the effects of cultivation and the selection of seed grain, may greatly improve the yield per acre of farm lands; and thus add to the vital resources of the country. By continuous selection in England Major Hallett is said to have succeeded in four years in increasing the length of the wheat ear from 44 inches to 82, and the number of ears on finest stock from 10 to 52. The distinctions between varieties of grasses are largely based on the culture of Bayens they produce, but the numbers are not constant and vary with their pedigree.

We call to mind a good old Methodist lady, very particular and very pious, who once kept a boarding-house in Boston.

Staunch in her principles, she would take no one to board who did not hold to the sternal punishment of a large portion of the race. But people were more intent on carnal comforts than spiritual so that in time her house became empty, much to her grief and alarm. After sometime a blind old sea captain knocked at the door, and the old lady answered the call.

"Servant, ma'am, can you give me board for two or three days?" Got my ship home, and shall be off as soon as I land."

"We'll, I don't know," says the old lady.

"Oh, home full, eh?"

"No, but—"

"But what am I?"

"I don't take any unclean or carnal people in my house. What do you believe?"

"About what?"

"Why do you believe anybody will be condemned?"

"Oh, thunder you."

"Do you?"

"Well, I don't know," says the old lady.

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